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measure of the genius and industry manifested in its successful accomplishment, and that expectations founded on the author's previous works are, if possible, more than realized in this.

11.—*The Lives of the British Historians.* By EUGENE LAWRENCE.
In two volumes. New York: C. Scribner. 1855. 24mo. pp. 395, 380.

HAD not our number for April been virtually made up before this work came to hand, we should have taken pleasure in presenting a prolonged and thorough analysis of its contents. It contains a series of biographical portraits extending from Gildas in the ninth century to Charles James Fox; and the author proposes to continue it down to the death of Arnold. Of some of the earlier historians, of course very little is known; of others belonging to a later period, little need be kept in permanent record; while, as to those of more illustrious name, it is a great gain if we are able to learn all the salient facts of their lives and features of their characters, without being compelled to make our way through the *débris* of insignificant and irrelevant details, which warn off more readers than they win. Mr. Lawrence manifests singular good judgment in the proportions of his work. His Lives of Raleigh, Hume, and Gibbon are sufficiently full for all ordinary purposes of reference and use; while of historians of whom we knew little more than the titles of their works, he has given us outline sketches, by means of which we can assign to them their due place among their contemporaries, and in the esteem of posterity. His style is pure, chaste, flexible, transparent, and unambitious. He evidently has studied his subjects thoroughly, and by the best lights at his command; and in the high praise which we cannot but bestow on these volumes, we only express our own sincere sense of obligation to him for what we have read, certainly with great pleasure, and we trust not without profit.

12.—*Letters to Young Communicants, on the Christian Walk.* By
MRS. E. L. NORTHRUP. Boston: Massachusetts Sabbath School
Society. 1855. 12mo. pp. 216.

THIS little book deserves high commendation for the simplicity, directness, discrimination, and close practical bearing of the counsels it offers. It covers with suggestions of mature Christian wisdom the life-path through which young persons must make their way to the cares